

# MONROE CITY DEMOCRAT.

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## Christmas Made Real For Many Families.

The car load of rabbits from the citizens of Monroe and Ralls, Marion and Shelby counties arrived in the city early yesterday morning for the poor. They were consigned to the St. Louis Provident Association and were taken at once from the depot to the storeroom in the old church edifice at Eleventh and Locust streets. An extra force of men was employed to distribute the big gift of the charitable Missouri farmers and long before noon those who had been notified to call for rabbits were in line with baskets and sacks awaiting for their turn.

In accordance with the rules of the Provident Association, only the most deserving families on the roster of the association were selected as beneficiaries of the gift, and the smiles which lighted the faces of the recipients as they walked homeward with their burdens would have repaid every farmer who engaged in the big rabbit hunt for his trouble and expense, could he have seen them. It was a merry Christmas for hundreds of persons too poor to provide meat for their Christmas dinner, but for the "bunnies" it is probable that the day of joy would have had no meaning for them.

Manager Finney says that last year the game went to families who had not tasted meat for many weeks, and this year it reached those equally deserving. The donors of the charity may rest assured that it was placed where the most good would be accomplished. Each person who was entitled to some of the game was notified by postal card, on which was an announcement of the hour and place of distribution and the number of rabbits which had been apportioned to that particular family. No one could secure the game unless provided with such a card.

In the large crowd which gathered at the door there were many wan and wistful faces; yet it was an orderly gathering, each waiting patiently for his turn, then hurrying homeward, to cook the meat in acceptable form for the big Christmas dinner.

One little girl came with a big basket, which dangled from her arm and almost reached the ground. Her face was very pale, and she looked anxiously at the disappearing rabbits, as if they all would disappear before her turn came.

"Won't you let me go up ahead?" She asked the woman in front of her.

"Why?" asked the woman pleasantly, as she glanced at the tot.

"Well, mamma hasn't anything to eat, and she is waiting for these rabbits, or we won't have any Christmas dinner."

The woman ahead could have told a similar story, but she stepped aside and the little girl went up one.

A man in front overheard the child's remarks and permitted her to pass up one more notch.

There were plenty of rabbits left when she got to the counter, and then her wistful face was lighted with such a sweet smile that even the force of clerks, who were used to such things, could not help giving her more than her allotted portion.—Republic.

## Of The Past.

Before this paper is issued again 1899, with its wars, sorrows and troubles as well as its joys and pleasures will have become a thing of the past and chronicled in history. During the past twelve months the DEMOCRAT has worked hard for any and every undertaking which was of public interest or for the benefit of the public. The people wanted better roads and the DEMOCRAT gave its time, energy and space to gravel roads and it is happy to be able to state that through its agitation and being backed by the agricultural interests nearly six miles of gravel roads were built. Whenever requested to go after those whose business it was to keep the roads in repair it did so, and the roads and culverts were repaired. This is the only paper in this section of the country that gave a short, concise report of the Spanish-Cuban-American war news, as well as giving all of the local and the important domestic and foreign news. It is the only one that advocated the upbuilding and advancement of the High School of the city.

Politically the DEMOCRAT stands squarely on the Chicago platform and will always be found advocating 16 to 1 and fighting a protective tariff as well as imperialism and other Republican fallacies.

In the future as in the past the DEMOCRAT will give all the news obtainable and as accurate as it can be obtained.

Monroe City is as good a town as there is in North Missouri, her merchants and business men are of the liberal and progressive type and we heartily thank all of them for their encouragement and support during the year that has almost slipped away.

To our subscribers we say thanks, many thanks, for your encouragement and substantial support. In conclusion will say the growth of the DEMOCRAT's subscription list during the past year has been a strong and healthy one and in the year that is just ahead of us we hope to increase the circulation 1,000. Wishing you a happy New Year we are yours for the advancement of the city and country.

The students and ex-students of this city of the Westminster College will give a banquet at the New Monroe Hotel to-night. There will be many young folk present who have or are just entering the threshold of life. Their songs, toasts and many reminiscences will be glorious. But lookout for the College yell.

Miss Jeannette McConachie is at present the guest of her cousin, Mrs. W. S. Keller, in South Denver, Colo.

At RANEY & SAUNDER'S

## DRUG = STORE.

**You will Find** the room packed full of Holiday Goods from Floor to Ceiling that we must sell in the next 10 days, as we are preparing to move to another building.

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will Find** the most complete line of Holiday Presents for the least money ever shown in Monroe City.

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will Find** the finest line of PERFUMES in the most stylish and up-to-date packages ever shown in Monroe City.

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will Find** a Complete line of Celluloid Cases and Novelties of all kinds.

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will Find** the Celebrated PLOW'S Candies in Bonbons, Creams, Marshmallows and Crystallized Fruits

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will Find** the most exquisite line of Medallions, Lamps, Vases and Rose Bowls in North-east Missouri.

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store

**You will Find** a fine line of Musical Instruments, including Guitars, Mandolins and Violins.

### At Raney & Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will Find** a large assortment of interesting books.

You will find the nicest, most beautiful lot of Toys and Wagons in the city for the boys and girls.

### At Raney and Saunder's Drug Store

**You will Find** the finest line of imported and domestic Cigars of Standard brands

### At Raney and Saunder's Drug Store.

**You will find** Holiday Goods selling for less money than ever before in Monroe City. Call and see for yourself.

Yours truly,

## Raney & Saunders